It was some 12 years ago that James Kaplan ’84 received his first invitation to attend a Chancellor’s Associates event at UC San Diego.

“I remember being at the event and thinking ‘This is so important, the work that the campus is doing,’” said Kaplan, who graduated from UC San Diego with a degree in computer science. “I wanted to support that work.”

Kaplan made the commitment then to become a Chancellor’s Associate. Over the years, he has enjoyed his involvement: attending events, meeting other Chancellor’s Associates and participating in the Faculty Excellence Awards selection committee. Now, he has taken his commitment to Chancellor’s Associates one step further by making a $750,000 bequest.

“I’ve served on nonprofit boards, and I know how important it is to have discretionary funds,” he said. “I want the money to be used for what the chancellor sees fit.”

For nearly 50 years, gifts from Chancellor’s Associates donors have supported scholarships and fellowships for students, helped recruit and retain world-class faculty and provided seed money for groundbreaking research. In 2013, Chancellor’s Associates funding was instrumental in establishing the Chancellor’s Associates Scholarship Program, which is a significant part of access and affordability to UC San Diego for local students.

For Kaplan, the goals of the Chancellor’s Associates Scholarship Program resonate strongly.

“If my gift helps someone have an opportunity at a great education, an opportunity they might not otherwise have had, that would be wonderful,” he said. “I got a lot out of UCSD—a great job, good life experiences. It would be incredibly rewarding to give someone else that chance.”

With his bequest, Kaplan is also now a member of the UC San Diego York Society. Named in honor of Herbert York, UC San Diego’s founding chancellor, the York Society recognizes and thanks an exceptional group of alumni, faculty, parents, staff, community leaders and other friends whose generosity through planned gifts helps secure the future of one of the world’s greatest universities.

For more information on the York Society, visit giftplanning.ucsd.edu.
UC SAN DIEGO is uniquely poised to tackle society’s most pressing challenges because of our talented campus members, our passion for discovery and impact, and our strength across disciplines. This year’s Chancellor’s Associates Faculty Excellence Awards winners exemplify this. As educators, they inspire student ambition; as researchers, they drive scholarship to new heights; as performers, they transform traditions; and as citizens, they reach out to the community to expand resources to the underserved.

I hope you will join me in honoring these exceptional individuals at the annual Chancellor’s Associates Faculty Excellence Awards ceremony on April 2. As you’ll see in the article on the honorees, their drive for advancing knowledge and dedication to positively impacting our campus and our society is truly remarkable.

While an outstanding faculty is key to maintaining excellence, UC San Diego would not be where it is today without the vision, support and leadership of many dedicated and talented people such as you, our Chancellor’s Associates donors. Your generous gifts advance our mission and goals as a student-centered, research-focused, service-oriented public university. For this, we thank you.

With kind regards,

Pradeep K. Khosla, Chancellor
University of California, San Diego

Colloquium: Exploring Ecosystems and Biodiversity in a Changing Environment

JOIN Chancellor’s Associates on May 13 for our next colloquium: “Ecosystems and Biodiversity in a Changing Environment” with Elsa Cleland, Ph.D., associate professor in the ecology, behavior and evolution section of the Division of Biological Sciences. The division educates future scientists in conducting important research to address issues that will explain and effectively communicate environmental change.

Cleland, one of the rising stars in the field, will illuminate how plant communities and ecosystems are stressed, impacted and altered by climate change. Her research provides science-based evidence that can lead to healthy and successful ecosystem restorations, and highlights how UC San Diego is helping to better understand and protect the planet.

The colloquium will take place at the UC San Diego Ida and Cecil Green Faculty Club from 5:30 to 7 p.m. RSVP to ca@ucsd.edu.

From Your Chancellor’s Associates Chair

CONNECTING people with this remarkable university has been the greatest thrill of my two years as chair of Chancellor’s Associates. And it truly is a thrill—something you may have felt yourself when sharing with others what you learned during one of our events. Many of you have already participated in our Just One initiative, sharing your Chancellor’s Associates experience with friends and inspiring them to get involved and join us.

You and I are important ambassadors for this amazing campus; together we can make even more possible. Your ideas, feedback and recommendations have helped transform Chancellor’s Associates—from our communications to our programming and expanded services. This is your university, and I encourage you to continue exploring all that it has to offer.

In just a few months, my two-year term as chair of Chancellor’s Associates comes to an end. I have been so proud to represent UC San Diego. It was a pleasure and honor to have the opportunity to work with so many generous members, good friends and outstanding faculty. Chancellor’s Associates truly is an extraordinary group of individuals who are making an incredible impact at one of the nation’s most outstanding universities. Thank you.

Best,

Nadine Corrigan ’78 • nadinecorrigan@cox.net

Elsa Cleland, Ph.D.

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Faculty Excellence Awards April 2

THERE’S a composer of music and a researcher with more than 39,000 citations, a new-tech macroeconomics teacher, and a computer science professor with “old school” style. One awardee makes breakthrough discoveries in plant genetics, while another unites communities divided by racism.

Chancellor’s Associates Selection Committee members wanted to honor all Faculty Excellence Awards nominees but managed to narrow them down. Melissa Famulari, awarded for undergraduate teaching, stood out for “getting inside students’” heads. The graduate teaching award recipient, Laurence Milstein, was lauded for his impact on more than 55 doctoral students, many now leaders in their fields.

James Hamilton, honored for research in humanities and social sciences, was a standout for “amazing contributions to economic theory.” The global implications for Martin Yanofsky’s work earned him the research in science and engineering award, and kudos for devoting 24 years to his alma mater.

Dennis Childs was noted for not only community service, but for “creating scholarly work on incidents and issues of race.” And performing and visual arts awardee Roger Reynolds is “the reason why UC San Diego’s Department of Music is the top in the world.”

Learn more about these stellar scholars at chancellorsassociates.ucsd.edu.

Help Guide Future Graduates

LOOKING for a way to give your time and talent to UC San Diego? Alumnus and Chancellor’s Associate donor Sam Knight ’73 has a suggestion: Join the Guardians.

A volunteer group of engaged professionals, the Guardians help ensure that undergraduate students succeed after graduation. The group created a 20-point Graduate Up program that exposes students to information, opportunities and skills that will maximize their success in their chosen career path.

“The Guardians are excited to complement Career Services programs by sharing their industry, government, entrepreneurial and real-world experiences,” said Knight, who is co-president of the group and also serves on the UC San Diego Alumni Board. “We want students to understand how to prepare and match their education with a future career.”

Interested? Contact Craig Schmidt at cschmidt@ucsd.edu.
Innovation is anything but business as usual. Come to Research Expo to be inspired by exciting research, talented graduate students and the possibilities to connect. Research Expo features research posters by more than 200 engineering graduate students from UC San Diego, lightning talks and a networking reception with faculty, students, industry partners and alumni. Date: April 16, 2–6 p.m. Location: Price Center. Tickets and info: jacobsschool.ucsd.edu/re.

The Center of Academic Research and Training in Anthropogeny (CARTA) hosts “Human-Climate Interactions and Evolution: Past and Future.” What are the predictions for the future of world climate, ecosystems and our species? This symposium presents varied perspectives on critical questions from earth scientists, ecologists and paleoanthropologists. Date: May 15, 1–5:30 p.m. Location: Salk Institute, Conrad T. Prebys Auditorium. Free. Registration and info: carta.anthropogeny.org/symposia.

ECONOMICS ROUNDTABLE: John F. Powers, president and CEO of Stanford Management Company discusses “Volatility, Liquidity, Agency and Returns: The Challenges to Perpetuity in Endowment Investing.” Date: April 14, 7:30–9 a.m. Location: UC San Diego Faculty Club. $50 public/discount for UC San Diego alumni, faculty, staff and students. Tickets and info: (858) 534-9710 or econroundtable@ucsd.edu.

EMERSON STRING QUARTET: An ArtPower! fan favorite, the Emerson String Quartet stands apart in the history of string quartets with an unparalleled list of achievements: over 30 acclaimed recordings, nine Grammys and more. Date: April 23, 8–10 p.m. Location: Conrad Prebys Concert Hall, UC San Diego Department of Music. $12–$36. Info: (858) 822-3199 or kbentz@ucsd.edu.

SPECIAL LECTURE: Explore the links between settler colonialism, slavery, imperial trades and Western liberalism with Lisa Lowe, professor of English and American Studies at Tufts University, as part of the Robert C. Elliott Memorial Lecture Series sponsored by the UC San Diego Department of Literature. Date: May 26, 4–5:30 p.m. Location: Literature Building, Room 155. Free. Info: (858) 534-4618 or sbarlow@ucsd.edu.

For additional events and more information, please visit calendar.ucsd.edu. For specific Chancellor’s Associates events, visit chancellorsassociates.ucsd.edu.